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REMARKS

Applicants respectfully present Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 10-12, 15-16, 18-20, 22, 25-26 and 28-30 for examination in the RCE filed herewith. Claims 3, 5, 9, 14, 17, 21, 23, 24 and 27 were previously canceled and Claims 1, 2, 19, 22, 25 and 28 have been amended herein to more clearly define the scope of the presently claimed invention. No new claims have been submitted and no new matter has been introduced. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims and remarks presented herein overcome the Examiner's rejections in the Final Office Action dated July 14, 2004 in the parent application.

35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Junqua et al, U.S. Patent No. 6, 415,257 ("Junqua"). The Examiner contends that Junqua disclose all the elements of these claims. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Junqua describes a system for identifying and adapting a TV-user profile by means of speech technology. In Junqua, a user's identity may be verified by a verification/identification module based on the user's speech, and then a predefined or prestored set of user preferences may be invoked to further guide the interaction between the user and the system (Junqua, Col. 1, lines 42-54). Thus, for example, Junqua describes the concept of storing user preferences to block channels from certain viewers (Junqua, Col. 2, lines 64-67 and Col.3, lines 1-5). Junqua, does not, however, describe all the elements of independent Claim 29 and dependant Claim 30, as the Examiner suggests.

With respect to independent Claim 29, a control module may select a default speech model based on initial context information (e.g., user information and/or channel information). Thereafter, the context module may dynamically determine whether a new speech model is a better fit for the context information, and if so, the new speech model may be selected as the new default speech model, to replace the originally selected default speech model. A recognition engine capable of receiving an input speech may

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additionally receive information from the control module as to an appropriate speech model to use to convert the input speech stream to an output text stream.

The Examiner suggests that various sections of Junqua disclose all these elements of independent Claim 29. Applicants respectfully disagree. In reviewing the sections of Junqua highlighted by the Examiner, Applicants find no description of various elements of Claim 29. For example, the Examiner suggests that Col. 3, line 12 of Junqua describes the element of "select one of the at least two speech models as a selected default speech model based on the context information". In fact, line 12 of Junqua (and the preceding lines) describe: "The system includes a natural language parser... that uses a set of predefined grammars to ascertain the semantics or meaning expressed by the user. The user profile database... includes storage of a set of customized dialog grammars... These customized grammars are used by the natural language parser along with a set of predefined grammars that are global to all users." Junqua, Col. 3, lines 6-12. There is no description in this section of *selecting* at least one of two speech models as a selected *default speech model* based on context information about a call.

Similarly, the Examiner suggests that Junqua, Col. 10, line 55, Col. 11, lines 25-44 and Col. 12, lines 36-66 describe the elements of "configure a speech recognizer to use the selected default speech model" and "dynamically identify whether a new speech model has a better fit to the characteristics of the context information". Again, Applicants strongly disagree. The element of "configure a speech recognizer to use the selected default speech model" refers to "the selected default speech model" selected in the previous element of the claim. The Examiner suggests that Col. 3 discloses "the default speech model" and that Col. 10 then refers to configuring the speech recognizer to recognize the speech model. There is no such relationship between the Cols. 3 and 10 of Junqua. Instead, Col. 10 line 55 of Junqua, under the heading "Speaker Adaption", talks about a new set of HMMs constructed based on a supervector to generate the adapted model. The Examiner makes no showing of how these various sections of Junqua relate to each other and Applicants respectfully submit that the elements that the Examiner highlighted cannot be related in the manner suggested.

Finally, with respect to Junqua, Col. 11, lines 25-44 and Col. 12, lines 36-66, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no discussion therein (as suggested by the

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Examiner) of *dynamically* identifying whether a new speech model has a better fit to the initial context information (i.e., the user information and/or the channel information). Applicants respectfully suggest that the various discrete sections of Junqua highlighted by the Examiner cannot be combined in the manner suggested to anticipate the claimed invention. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that Junqua in fact does not disclose various elements of independent Claim 29 (and by extension, the elements of dependant Claim 30).

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18-20, 22, 25, 26 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Sherwood, U.S. Patent No. 6, 212, 498 ("Sherwood") in view of Sharma et al, U.S. Patent No. 6, 480,825 ("Sharma"). Additionally, Claims 4 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Sharma in view of Sherwood, and in further view of Junqua. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Sherwood describes a system for enrolling a user in a speech recognition system. As described in Sherwood, "the invention features enrolling a user in a speech recognition system by analyzing acoustic content of a user utterance and determining, based on the analysis, whether the user utterance matches a portion of an enrollment text. The acoustic content of the user utterance is used to update acoustic models corresponding to the portion of the enrollment text if the user utterance matches a portion of the enrollment text." Sherwood, Col. 2, lines 1-10.

The Examiner concedes that Sherwood does not explicitly teach *any* of the elements of independent Claims 1, 8, 15, 19 and 25 (Office Action, page 4 and 7). The Examiner suggests, however, that the combination of Sharma and Sherwood teaches all elements of the claimed invention. Applicants strongly disagree. Applicants first point out that if Sherwood does not explicitly teach any of the elements of the claims, then it is an inappropriate reference to render the claims unpatentable (alone, or in combination with any other reference).

Additionally, even if Sherwood was somehow relevant, Sherwood in combination with Sharma does not teach or suggest all the elements of the claimed invention. Sharma

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discloses a system and method for detecting a recorded voice. Specifically, Sharma describes a system and method to analyze the temporal characteristics of a user's speech, analyze the characteristics of the channel over which the user's voice is transmitted, train a pattern classifier to recognize the difference between live and recorded speech and employ an "audio watermark" to detect use of a recording of a previous enrollment or verification attempt (Sharma, Col. 3, lines 13-23). The focus of Sharma is therefore to examine various characteristics of user speech to identify differences between live and/or recorded speech.

The Examiner suggests that various sections of Sharma teach the elements of the claimed invention, and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Sherwood according to Sharma. Again, Applicants strongly disagree. The sections of Sharma highlighted by the Examiner bear no resemblance to the claimed elements of the independent claims. For example, the Examiner submits that Sharma, Col. 10, line 55, Col. 11, lines 25-44 and Col. 12, lines 36-66 teach or suggest the claimed element of "dynamically identifying whether a new speech model has a better fit to the initial information". In fact, the sections of Sharma highlighted by the Examiner make no mention whatsoever of speech models. Similarly, the Examiner highlights Sharma, Col. 12, line 1, as teaching or suggesting the element of "if so, associating the new speech model with the input speech stream as a new default model". Applicants cannot find any reference to any aspect of this element in Sharma, Col. 12, line 1, which reads "[Is] detected, speech characteristics set ($V_1 + E_1$) is stored". As such, Applicants respectfully contend that based on Applicants own review of Sharma and/or the sections highlighted by the Examiner, Sharma does not teach various elements of the claimed invention.

Claim 4 is dependant on independent Claim 1 and Claim 10 is dependant on independent Claim 8. As described above, Sharma and/or Sherwood do not teach various elements of Claims 1 and 8. Applicants respectfully submit that the addition of Junqua to these references also does not teach these various elements. Thus, regardless of whether Junqua teaches the use of personal characteristics, Sherwood, Sharma and Junqua, alone or in combination do not teach all the elements of Claims 4 and 10. As such, Applicants submit that Claims 4 and 10 are patentable over Sherwood, Sharma and/or Junqua and

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respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection to these claims under 35 U.S.C. §103.

In summary, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references do not render independent Claims 1, 8, 15, 19 and 25 unpatentable (and by extension, any claims dependant on these independent claims). Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection to Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18-20, 22, 25, 26 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

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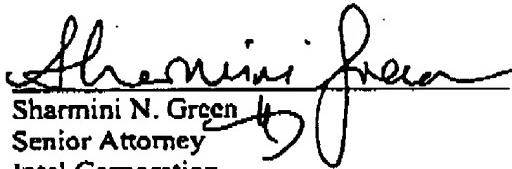
CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome and that pending Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 10-12, 15-16, 18-20, 22, 25-26 and 28-30 are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore respectfully request an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance in this case. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 406-2362.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,

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